

**Travis Air Force Base
Environmental Management
Hilton Garden Inn Conference Room
Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfield, California
Environmental Restoration Program
Remedial Program Managers Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

15 October 2003, 0930 Hours

Mr. Mark Smith, Travis Air Force Base (AFB), conducted the Remedial Program Managers (RPM) meeting held on 15 October 2003 at 0930 in the Hilton Garden Inn Conference Room, Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfield, California. Attendees included:

- Mark Smith Travis AFB
- Dale Malsberger Travis AFB
- Wilford Day Travis AFB
- Glenn Anderson Travis AFB
- Tom Sreenivasan Travis AFB
- Roby Gregg Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE)
- David Rose AFCEE/JA
- John Lucey U.S. Environment Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)
- Elizabeth Allen TechLaw
- Sarah Raker Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
- Jose Salcedo Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)
- Tricia Carter CH2M Hill
- Amir Matin URS
- Brian Garber Shaw Engineering and Infrastructure (SE&I)

Handouts distributed during the meeting included:

- Attachment 1 Meeting Agenda
- Attachment 2 Master Meeting, Teleconference, and Document Schedules
- Attachment 3 SBBGWTP Monthly Data Sheet
- Attachment 4 CGWTP Monthly Data Sheet
- Attachment 5 NGWTP Monthly Data Sheet
- Attachment 6 Shaw Field Activities, Travis AFB (October – November 2003)
- Attachment 7 URS Field Activities, Travis AFB (September 2003)

1. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the September 2003 RPM meeting was approved with corrections and finalized.

B. Master Meeting and Document Schedule

The revised Travis AFB Master Meeting, Teleconference, and Document Schedules were distributed (see Attachment 2).

Travis AFB Annual Meeting and Teleconference Schedule

- The October 2003 RPM and Suppliers meeting dates were changed to reflect the actual meeting dates.
- The Monthly Teleconference for October was changed to 29 October 2003.

Travis AFB Master Meeting and Document Schedule

- Page 2, SD042 Remedial Action Report predraft to Air Force/Service Center comments was changed to 7 October 2003 to reflect actual submittal date.
- Page 2, SS015 Removal Action Report schedule was updated.
- Page 3, LF008 Groundwater Extraction System Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual and DP039 Groundwater Dual Phase Extraction System O&M Manual final due dates were changed to TBD (to be determined).
- Page 4, Groundwater Sampling Analysis Program (GSAP) Annual Report Air Force/Service Center comments due date was changed to 28 October 2003.
- Page 7, Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) Phase I Project Summary and SS041 Remedial Action Reports were moved to the Historical Document section.

Mr. Smith commented that Mr. Anderson did an outstanding job on the *Guardian*.

2. OPERABLE UNIT UPDATE

A. North/East/West/ Industrial Operable Unit

1. NEWIOU ROD Plan of Action and Milestone

a. Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum

Mr. Malsberger stated that the Air Force submitted its response to the agencies' comments on the revised draft Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum on 10 October 2003.

b. Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum

Mr. Malsberger stated that the Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum was submitted on 15 September 2003. Preliminary agency comments have been received and will be discussed today.

2. CAMU Phase II Project Summary Report

Mr. Malsberger stated that the CAMU Phase I Summary Report was finalized. The draft SS015 Removal Action Report was submitted 10 October 2003 and agency comments are due 10 November 2003.

Ms. Raker asked what will happen with the technical memorandum and schedule for the record of decision (ROD). Mr. Malsberger stated that it will be delayed in order to get agreement for the need of additional sampling and risk management decisions.

Ms. Raker asked if it becomes necessary to delay the ROD, will it affect the field schedules for 2005. Mr. Smith stated that it is still do-able; however, he would like the remedial designs to be completed by 2005 to ensure the 2006 soil actions, which will wrap up the remaining soil actions on base.

Mr. Malsberger commented that the CAMU Phase III will commence in 2006 and the Air Force is hopeful a Phase IV will not be necessary.

3. Record of Decision

Mr. Malsberger stated that technically if the draft ROD is delayed, it would violate the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA), which may require a revision of the FFA. Mr. Lucey stated that when the revision takes place, additional changes could be done at the same time (such as titles of documents, document categories [i.e., primary, secondary, informational], etc.).

Mr. Lucey asked if there is an update on land use controls.
Mr. Anderson stated that major command's signing authority has lapsed. Travis AFB will continue to monitor this issue.

3. CURRENT PROJECTS

A. South Base Boundary Groundwater Treatment Plant

Mr. Sreenivasan reported that the South Base Boundary Groundwater Treatment Plant (SBBGWTP) performed at 100% uptime with approximately 6.5 million gallons of groundwater extracted and treated during the month of September 2003. The average flow was 150 gallons per minute (gpm). Approximately 3 pounds of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were removed during the month of September 2003. The total mass of VOCs removed since startup of the system is 231 pounds (see Attachment 3).

Maintenance during September included the removal of sludge from the settling tank and the repair of the storm water pump. In addition, the well safety cables in EW01x30, EW05x30, EW05x29, EW01x05 and EW03x30 were replaced with new polyethylene cord.

In September, the pipeline around Building 1175 broke and the potable water supply to the plant was shut off. Without potable water, the sequestering pump was unable to flush viscous sequestering agent out of the pump to prevent the pump from seizing. To avoid scaling, the air stripper was shut down and the flow was routed through the carbon vessels. According to the utilities personnel, the pipeline could not be fixed until the end of September because the area was too wet.

B. Central Groundwater Treatment Plant

Mr. Sreenivasan reported that the Central Groundwater Treatment Plant (CGWTP) performed at 99.3% uptime with approximately 3.3 million gallons of groundwater extracted and treated during the month September. The average flow for the CGWTP was 77.7 gpm. Approximately 205 pounds of VOCs (of which 185 pounds were from vapor) were removed during September 2003. The total mass of VOCs removed since startup of the system is 3,624 pounds (see Attachment 4).

The thermal oxidation (Th/Ox) system continued to treat soil vapor from the 2-phase well as part of the SS016 focused vapor extraction activities. The most recent sample, collected on 2 September 2003, showed a decline of influent trichloroethene (TCE) concentrations. TCE was detected at 75 parts per million by volume (ppmv). TCE was detected at 190 ppmv three months prior. System samples are scheduled to be collected near the end of the monitoring quarter (i.e., December 2003).

The West Treatment Transfer Plant (WTTP) vacuum blowers remain shut down. A rebound sample was collected and analyzed in September 2003. TCE was detected at 110 parts per billion by volume (ppbv), an increase from the 39 ppbv concentration detected in the previous sample (June 2003). It is still considered very, very low concentration, so the blowers will be kept off line for at least next six months.

Approximately 1.0 million gallons of the 3.3 million gallons of the treated water was used for irrigation during this month. The remainder was discharged to the storm drain.

Ms. Raker commented that she is pleased with the Optimization Efforts/Recommendations section which was included in the CGWTP and NGWTP monthly reports.

Mr. Lucey requested that the monthly reports include a section that addresses current status of ongoing optimization activities.

Mr. Smith agreed to include current and future activities/recommended future optimizations in the groundwater treatment plant monthly data sheets when applicable.

C. North Groundwater Treatment Plant

Mr. Sreenivasan reported that the North Groundwater Treatment Plant (NGWTP) performed at 98.5% uptime with approximately 1.0 million gallons of groundwater extracted and treated during the month of September 2003. The average flow for the NGWTP was 24.4 gpm during the month. Less than a pound of vapor VOC mass was removed through extraction. Another 1.3 pounds of groundwater VOC mass was removed. The temporary portable catalytic oxidation (Catox) system took 940 pounds of vapor petroleum hydrocarbon mass through extraction and treatment from EW566x31. The total mass of petroleum hydrocarbons removed from the start (18 July 2003 through 17 September 2003) was 4,859 pounds. The Catox system was taken off line on 17 September 2003 due to lack of funds and was returned to the vendor. A project has been submitted for FY04 funds to pull the remaining contaminant mass from this source (see Attachment 5).

The duck pond was scheduled for herbicidal treatment on 15 August 2003. The NGWTP discharge was diverted into the storm drain instead of sending it into the duck pond, as requested by the Natural and Cultural Resources personnel. The practice continued until 1 October 2003, at which time the switch back to the duck pond became effective.

Mr. Smith asked if the agencies were satisfied with the readability of the operation summary on the monthly reports. Mr. Lucey stated that he is satisfied.

Ms. Raker asked what is the source of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), is the Air Force attacking something without knowing the source, and if it is an old phantom plume, is it necessary to extract. If there is no source and/or no risk to human health, is it necessary to continue pumping? It is her opinion that there is not a need to extract and spend funds on something that is not defined and/or a problem.

Mr. Sreenivasan stated that this is based on the remedial investigation data which shows that there is a source in the area; however, it is a good issue to ponder. Mr. Smith and Mr. Sreenivasan will further investigate this issue.

Mr. Amir Matin stated that an analysis similar to an SVE Termination and Optimization Process (STOP) can be used to evaluate how vadose zone contamination impacts groundwater. This process aids in determining if the existing vadose zone contamination should be treated in the vadose zone or if it should be allowed to enter the groundwater and be captured there. This exercise involves the evaluating contaminant transport from the vadose zone to groundwater, groundwater contaminant transport to the treatment system, and the cost of treating the contaminants in the vadose zone vs. treating in the groundwater.

D. LF007 C Groundwater Action

Mr. Malsberger gave an update on the LF007 C groundwater action.

- On-Base – This will commence in the spring of 2004.
- Off-Base – The Air Force has received the go ahead from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to install two monitoring wells. Mr. Smith stated that the deed title and escrow is pending – need to request quick funding from Air Mobility Command (approximately \$7,000). This is not necessary prior to going on the site.

E. CAMU Phase II Update

Mr. Brian Garber stated that the Air Force has completed removing the pile and the necessary test pad for permeability. Currently 80% of the ET cover material has been placed on the pile, the remainder will be completed by the second week of November 2003. The majority of the construction work will be completed within the first week of November 2003.

On 24 October 2003, the WABOU liner will be laid out for the piezometer. The Air Force will complete backfilling and have the majority of instrumentation and piping completed by 31 October 2003. The Air Force will plant the vegetated covering and restore the area. All construction will be completed by 7 November 2003.

There may be a CAMU presentation at the January 2004 Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting.

Ms. Raker suggested that the Air Force give an in-house presentation of Travis AFB's CAMU and soil actions to the RWQCB.

F. Phytoremediation Treatability Study

Mr. Anderson stated that the phytoremediation treatability study contractor will be at Travis AFB on 27 October 2003 to collect additional data by excavating and collecting core samples from the tree roots.

The Air Force is attempting to conduct the sampling analysis for groundwater, which would free the contractor to conduct air transpiration sampling around the tree leaves. Good information is required to determine if the trees are having an impact on the TCE plume at DP039 and if a significant amount of solvent is being expired from the leaves.

Mr. Anderson will continue to keep the RPMs updated on this study.

Mr. Lucey asked if this information will be helpful for DP039. Mr. Anderson stated that the natural attenuation assessment will be helpful, which is why he desires to do the sampling through the GSAP.

G. DP039 Optimization Plan

Mr. Anderson stated that a discussion on DP039 took place with the regulatory agencies on 10 September 2003 concerning the data needed to identify the extent of the plume and determine the vertical extent of contamination. A list of areas to focus on was developed and placed in the FY04 program to fund this DP039 Optimization effort. This is an effort to optimize the operation of the existing Dual-Phase Extraction system. The field work will begin at the end of the current rainy season.

Mr. Lucey asked about the haloprobe. Mr. Anderson stated that he has not received any recent information from the contractor that manufactures this Direct Push tool.

Mr. Lucey asked if there was information on termite, Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Johnson informed him that it may be cost-prohibitive.

H. CAMU Wetland Mitigation Performance Criteria

In a previous meeting, Ms. Raker asked a question about how the Air Force would know if the wetland mitigation being performed at Castle Terrace were successful.

Mr. Malsberger stated that Shaw Engineering has the contract for CAMU maintenance and monitoring the wetlands. During the period of January 2004 through April 2004, field surveys will be conducted for hydrology, plants, and soil degradation. These surveys are being accomplished by both the Natural Resources and the restoration branches.

Mr. Smith stated that the Restoration Branch is planning to determine what the overlap is and ensure that any work is not duplicated.

I. Restoration Advisory Board Update

Mr. Sreenivasan stated that the October 2003 *Guardian* draft has been completed and sent to the regulators for their comments with a one-week review period.

The next RAB meeting will be 23 October 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors office in Fairfield. The dry run is scheduled for 16 October 2003.

4. PROGRAM ISSUES UPDATE

A. Project Funding and Prioritizing

1. LF007 Easement

Mr. Smith stated that there are still a few outstanding issues with the easement purchase to be completed. However, field activities may begin.

B. Optimization Activities/Further Actions

1. Site SS041

Mr. Anderson asked the agencies what type of data will be required in order for the Air Force to complete the groundwater remedial action and close Site SS041.

Ms. Raker asked how long the data have been non-detect.

Mr. Sreenivasan stated that the data have been non-detect for approximately four years. Ms. Raker asked if the extraction well near Building 905 is being used to monitor any VOC plume. The answer was no. Mr. Anderson stated that the well will be decommissioned to support the construction of a new building.

Ms. Raker stated that four to six years is plenty of data; however, she will defer to U.S. EPA. Mr. Lucey stated that he will get back to the Air Force on this issue. His general thought is to keep the procedure informal and as simple as possible, similar to RW013.

Mr. Malsberger stated that it would be better to go through a formal action in order that it is clearly documented that all parties were in agreement. A “no further remedial action planned” (NFRAP) memorandum shows that that there is agreement.

Mr. Anderson stated that he will go back to the GSAP data and determine what is necessary to shut down a monitoring well.

Mr. Smith stated that the Air Force could take the approach that the Air Force will come back with a recommendation for no further action. He asked the agencies what is required for the agencies to approve the decision.

Mr. Matin suggested that a decision tree be developed on decommissioning a well.

C. Other

Ms. Raker requested that Ms. Mary Rose Casa give an update on the OEA sites during the November 2003 teleconference. It was agreed that the appropriate individuals will be involved during this teleconference.

D. Field Activity Reports

Mr. Smith distributed the field activity reports from SE&I and URS (see Attachments 6 and 7).

ACTION ITEM LIST

(Action Items Closed)

AGENDA	RESPONSIBLE	ACTION ITEM	DUE DATE	STATUS
1.	U.S. EPA/DTSC	Check on the requirement for site closure documentation.	10 September 2003	Completed. Item Closed.
2.	AFCEE	Prepare a draft closure document for RW013 (NFA site).	10 September 2003	Completed. Item Closed.

ACTION ITEM LIST

(Action Items Open)

AGENDA	RESPONSIBLE	ACTION ITEM	DUE DATE	STATUS
1.	Agencies	Provide comments on the Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum	TBD	Ongoing.
2.	Air Force U.S. EPA	Submit an FFA extension request for the draft ROD and document title changes.	TBD	Ongoing
3.	Air Force	Add current status and recommendation for future optimization to the monthly groundwater treatment plant reports.	TBD	New Item.
4.	Air Force	Develop a presentation on the CAMU for the RWQCB.	2004	New Item.
5.	Air Force	Develop the NFRAP document for SS041.	TBD	New Item.